

What is claimed is:

1. An animal lift apparatus comprising:

a lift;

5 a rigid support sheet, wherein said lift comprises said rigid support sheet and said rigid support sheet is capable of supporting an animal;

a lifting mechanism that is capable of raising or lowering said rigid support sheet to a desired position;

10 at least one lift arm, wherein said lifting mechanism comprises said at least one lift arm and wherein said rigid support sheet is supported in a raised or lowered position by said at least one lift arm;

at least two wheels, wherein said at least two wheels are connected to said lift to allow said animal lift apparatus to be rolled to a desired location;

a release, wherein said release may be selectively engaged to prevent said frame from being raised or lowered; and

15 at least one belt, wherein said at least one belt is capable of strapping said animal to said rigid support sheet.

2. The animal lift apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a waste portal, wherein said rigid support sheet comprises said waste portal.

3. The animal lift apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a waste container.

20 4. The animal lift apparatus of claim 3 wherein said rigid support sheet is sloped, wherein waste from said animal is capable of being directed toward said waste portal via said sloped rigid support sheet and said waste is capable of flowing through said waste portal and into said waste container.

25 5. The animal lift apparatus of claim 3, wherein said rigid support sheet further comprises grooves, wherein waste from said animal is capable of being directed toward said waste portal via said grooves and said waste is capable of flowing through said waste portal and into said waste container.

6. The animal lift apparatus of claim 1, comprising an I.V. pole, wherein said I.V. pole is connected to said lift.

7. The animal lift apparatus of claim 6, wherein said lift comprises at least two I.V. pole receptacles located on opposite sides of said lift, and wherein said I.V. pole is connected to said lift via at least one of said I.V. pole receptacles.

8. The animal lift apparatus of claim 1, wherein said rigid support sheet comprises at least two cutouts, wherein said at least two cutouts comprise handles.

9. The animal lift apparatus of claim 8, wherein said handles comprise padding.

10. The animal lift apparatus of claim 1, wherein said rigid support sheet is manually raised or lowered to said desired position by said at least one lift arm.

11. The animal lift apparatus of claim 1, wherein said rigid support sheet is electronically raised or lowered to said desired position by said at least one lift arm.

12. The animal lift apparatus of claim 1, wherein said animal is a large, non-human animal.

13. A method for lifting a large animal, comprising the steps of:  
providing a lift comprising a rigid support sheet, wherein said rigid support sheet is capable of supporting a large animal;

placing said large animal on said rigid support sheet;

strapping said large animal to said rigid support sheet using at least one belt;

rolling said lift to a desired location using at least two wheels, wherein said at least two wheels are connected to said lift;

engaging a release; and

raising said rigid support sheet to a desired position using a lifting mechanism that comprises at least one lift arm after said release has been engaged, wherein said rigid support sheet is supported in the raised position by said at least one lift arm.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising:

providing a waste portal, wherein said rigid support sheet comprises said waste portal and said rigid support sheet is sloped;

providing a waste container;

directing waste from said large animal toward said

waste portal via said sloped rigid support sheet; and directing waste through said waste portal and into said waste container.

15. The method of claim 13 further comprising:

providing a waste portal, wherein said rigid support sheet comprises said waste  
5 portal and said rigid support sheet comprises grooves;  
providing a waste container;  
directing waste from said large animal toward said waste portal via said grooves;  
and  
directing waste through said waste portal and into said waste container.

10 16. The method of claim 13 further comprising connecting an I.V. pole to said lift via an I.V. pole receptacle.

17. The method of claim 13 further comprising:

providing at least two I.V. pole receptacles on opposite sides of said lift; and  
connecting an I.V. pole to said lift via at least one of said I.V. pole receptacles.

15 18. The method of claim 13 comprising providing at least two cutouts in said rigid support sheet, wherein said at least two cutouts comprise handles.

19. An animal lift apparatus comprising:

a lift;  
a support sheet, wherein said lift comprises said support sheet and said support  
20 sheet is capable of supporting a large animal;  
a lifting mechanism that is capable of raising or lowering said rigid support sheet to a desired position;

at least one lift arm, wherein said lifting mechanism comprises said at least one lift arm and wherein said support sheet is supported in a raised or lowered position by said at  
25 least one lift arm;

at least two wheels, wherein said at least two wheels are connected to said lift to allow said animal lift apparatus to be rolled to a desired location;

a release, wherein said release is capable of being engaged to enable said support sheet to be raised or lowered to said desired position;

at least one belt, wherein said at least one belt is capable of strapping said large animal to said support sheet;

a waste portal, wherein said support sheet comprises said waste portal;

5 a waste container, wherein said support sheet is sloped, wherein waste from said large animal is capable of being directed toward said waste portal via said sloped support sheet and said waste is capable of flowing through said waste portal into said waste container;

at least two I.V. pole receptacles located on opposite sides of said lift; and

an I.V. pole, wherein said I.V. pole is connected to said lift via at least one of said I.V. pole receptacles.

10 20. The animal lift apparatus of claim 19, wherein said support sheet comprises a rigid support sheet, and further comprises at least two cutouts, wherein said at least two cutouts comprise handles and said handles comprise padding.